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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/816,199	03/31/2004	David John Copeland	00565-069001	7509
26181	7590	12/07/2005	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. PO BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			WALTERS, JOHN DANIEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3618	
DATE MAILED: 12/07/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/816,199	Applicant(s) COPELAND ET AL.	
	Examiner John D. Walters	Art Unit 3618	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 August 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/25/2005</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1 – 17 have been examined.

#### *Drawings*

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because:

- reference character “145” has been used to designate both a microscope and a movable cover panel (For example, Figs. 1A and 1B).
- reference character “180” has been used to designate both a hanging clipboard and a hanging storage bin (Fig. 1B).
- reference character “100” has been used to designate both a storage unit and a base (paragraph 30).
- reference character “315” has been used to designate both what appears to be the top of the storage unit (Fig. 3B) and an indicator (Fig. 3C).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of

any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because:

- reference characters "100" and "110" have both been used to designate a base (paragraph 30).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description:

- reference number 185 is not shown within the drawings (paragraph 48).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because:

- the first sentence is a fragment.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- paragraph 43 states that Fig. 3C shows a configuration of Applicant's invention which does not include an indicator. Said figure appears is shown to include an indicator.
- paragraph 51 states that a cord retractor is described in a listed U.S. Patent Application but no serial number or filing date is provided.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the placement of a comma between “receptacles” and “and electrical receptacle” makes it unclear the structure being claimed. For the sake of continuing examination, it will be assumed that Applicant is claiming that said plurality of electrical receptacles which are configured to receive a plug.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 10 – 13, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kozlowski (6,218,796). Kozlowski discloses a storage cart for rechargeable devices comprising:

- a base and a top (Fig. 1);
- wherein said base and top are generally rectangular (Fig. 1);
- at least two sidewalls (Fig. 1);
- a plurality of receptacles (Figs. 1 and 2);

- said receptacles comprising an opening and at least four sidewalls defining an interior region (Fig. 1);
- a movable sidewall substantially perpendicular to said base and said top (Fig. 1, item 14);
- a plurality of electrical receptacles being configured to receive electrical plugs (Fig. 1, items 32 and 34);
- a plurality of charging devices (Fig. 2, items 24 and 84);
- said charging device comprising a plurality of AC adapters (Fig. 2, item 24);
- an electrical cord (Fig. 1, item 28);
- one or more wheels (Fig. 1, item 44);
- a plurality of interior electrical receptacles (Fig. 1, item 32)

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 6 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kozlowski (6,218,796) in view of Pena (5,723,815). Kozlowski discloses a storage cart for rechargeable devices as described above. Kozlowski does not disclose a cord reeling mechanism. Pena, however, discloses a retractable electrical extension cord comprising:

- a cord retractor configured to retract and house the electrical cord (Fig. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the cord retractor of Pena with the storage cart of Kozlowski in order to provide an extendable and retractable electrical cord which stores away safely and in an untangled state when said cart is moved.

Claims 3 and 7 – 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kozlowski (6,218,796) in view of Andis et al (6,112,414). Kozlowski discloses a storage cart for rechargeable devices as described above. Kozlowski does not disclose a docking station style connection for rechargeable devices. Andis, however, discloses a rechargeable hair clipper assembly comprising:

- a docking station (Figs. 9 and 10, item 223);
- one or more indicators comprising a light emitting diode (column 15, lines 41 – 43);
- wherein said charging devices are configured to determine whether a rechargeable battery is fully charged and charge said battery based on said determination (column 15, line 60 to column 16, line 37).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the docking station of Andis with the storage cart of Kozlowski in order to provide a quickly coupled connection between said cart and the devices being recharged within said cart.



Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kozlowski (6,218,796) in view of Mitten (2,625,455). Kozlowski discloses a storage cart for rechargeable devices as described above. Kozlowski does not disclose the use of drawers for storage of recharging devices. Mitten, however, discloses a chest of drawers comprising:

- drawers positioned between said top and base (Fig. 1);
- wherein said drawers are slidable in a plane parallel to said base and said top (Fig. 5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the drawer structure of Mitten with the storage cart of Kozlowski in order to provide quick and unobstructed access to recharging devices.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kozlowski (6,218,796) in view of Manning et al. (2,617,702). Kozlowski discloses a storage cart for rechargeable devices as described above. Kozlowski does not disclose the use of drawers for storage of recharging devices. Manning, however, discloses a canister bin unit comprising:

- drawers positioned between said top and base (Fig. 1);
- wherein said drawers are configured to pivot forward (Fig. 2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to combine the drawer structure of Manning with the storage cart of Kozlowski in order to provide quick and unobstructed access to recharging devices.

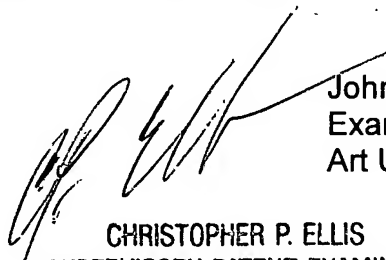
### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nelms et al. (2,375,866), Madison et al. (6,008,621), Fields (6,769,991), and Wixted et al. (2003/0141687) disclose recharging carts of note.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John D. Walters whose telephone number is (571) 272-8269. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Ellis can be reached on (571) 272-6914. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
John D. Walters  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3618  
  
CHRISTOPHER P. ELLIS  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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